## Message Text

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**ORIGIN NEA-10** 

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R 030137Z JAN 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, PK

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR YAQUB'S CALL ON ACTING SECRETARY

REF: ISLAMABAD 11961

- 1. SU;MARY. PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR YAQUB CALLED ON ACTING SECRETARY ROBINSON DECEMBER 30 TO EXPLAIN IMMEDIATE NEED FOR SHIPMENTS OF ADDITIONAL PL 480 WHEAT AND VEGOIL. CITING AZIZ AHMED'S OCTOBER CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT FORD IN WHICH GOP REITERATED APPEAL FOR ADDITIONAL PL 480 WHEAT, YAQUB EXPRESSED APPRECIATION PAST USG EFFORT" AND EXPLAINED THAT IMPROVED CONDITIONS WOULD SOON SEE PAKISTAN BECOME A WHEAT-SURPLUS COUNTRY. ACTING SECRETARY GAVE INFORMAL OVERVIEW OF RECENT CIEC SESSION IN PARIS, NOTING THE "HELPFUL, MODERATE" STATEMENT BY GOP THERE AND EXPRESSING HOPE DESTRUCTIVE CONFRONTATION COULD BE AVOIDED T;ROUGH PAK AND OTHER LDC EFFORTS. END SUMMARY.
- 2. AMBASSADOR YAQUB EXPLAINED TO ACTING SECRETARY THAT HIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CALL DURING HOLIDAYS WAS ON URGENT INSTRUCT ON OF BHUTTO,

REQUESTING EFFORT TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL TITLE I WHEAT IN TIME TO MEET SHORTFALL IN FEBRUARY-MAY PERIOD. SINCE PAKISTAN WAS NOW ENTERING SHORTAGE PERIOD, THERE WAS CONCERN

OVER "POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS" OF BREAK IN SUPPLY PIPE-LINE. THE ACTING SECRETARY NOTED OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE HOPED-FOR 8.5 MILLION TON CROP HAD BEEN REDUCED BY DROUGHT TO ONLY ABOUT 7.1 MILLION TONS. YAQUB AGREED AND SAID THAT REQUESTING WHEAT IMPORTS WAS UNFORTUNATE GIVEN PAKISTAN'S FORMER POSITION AS "GRANARY OF SUBCONTINENT." HE CITED CURRENT EFFORTS IN TARBELA DAM CONSTRUCTION, FERTILIZER, SEED, AND WATER DISTRIBUTION, LAND LEVELLING, AND IMPROVED FARMING PRACTICES AS INTENDED TO MAKE PAKISTAN SELF-SUFFICIENT IN WHEAT AND OTHER BASIC FOODSTUFFS.

- 3. ACTING SECRETARY NOTED THAT WE RECOGNIZE OUR OBLIGA-TIONS TO ASSIST PAK DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS AND MENTIONED THAT FY 73-75 ASSISTANCE TOTALLED OVER DOLS 600 MILLION. IN ADDITION, TOTAL FY 76 USG FINANCING (INCLUDING EXISTING CCC AND PLANNED TITLE I) EXTENDED TO PAKISTAN SHOULD BE OVER DOLS 275 MILLION. HOWEVER, OUR RECORD WHEAT CROP LAST YEAR WAS MET WITH RECORD WORLDWIDE DEMAND AND THIS LIMITS OUR TITLE I FLEXIBILITY. WE SHALL BE MORE GENEROUS THAN LAST SPRING'S CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION HAD INDICATED ON VEGOIL. ACTING SECRETARY SAID WE HOPE TO PROVIDE AS MUCH AS 40,000 TONS AND THIS SHOULD FREE UP PAK FOREIGN EXCHANGE FOR ADDITIONAL COMMERCIAL WHEAT PURCHASES. WE ARE MOVING TO PROVIDE 200,000 TONS OF WHEAT QUICKLY (SEE SEPTEL). WE WILL ALSO KEEP PAK REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL TITLE I WHEAT UNDER CONSIDERATION AS WE FINALIZE OUR GLOBAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REMAINDER OF FY 76.
- 4. AMBASSADOR ASKED WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO GET ADDITIONAL CCC CREDITS FOR WHEAT BEYOND THE DOLS 20 MILLION PURCHASED LAST SEPTEMBER. AMBASSADOR WAS TOLD THAT RECENT INDICATIONS WERE FAVORABLE, AND SUGGESTED GOP MIGHT NOW WISH TO REQUEST A FURTHER CREDIT, INDICATING ITS DESIRE FOR 3-YEAR TERMS.
- 5. ACTING SECRETARY BROUGHT UP CIEC SESSION RECENTLY CON-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CLUDED IN PARIS, EMPHASIZING USG INTEREST IN EFFORTS TO "DEAL CONSTRUCTIVELY AND POSITIVELY" WITH ENERGY AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS. HE WELCOMED GOP PARTICIPATION AS MEMBER OF FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONS. HE HOPED LDC'S WOULD ASSIST IN PROMOTING BROADER OPEC RESPONSIBILITY IN EASING BURDENS OF UNDERDEVELOPMENT. "WITH A CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE BY OTHER PARTICIPANTS," THE USG WILL BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE EFFECTIVELY TO CIEC'S SEARCH FOR REAL

PROGRESS; IF IDEOLOGUES ASSUME CONTROL, WE CAN DO LITTLE. YAQUB EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT GOP HAD PROVED ITS COMMITMENT

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TO MODERATE AND CONSTRUCTIVE COURSE IN UN AND OTHER FORA.
ACTING SECRETARY PRAISED FOREIGN MINISTER AZIZ AHMED'S
PARIS STATEMENT AS PARTICULARLY "HELPFUL AND MODERATE."
YAQUB SAID HE WOULD STRESS USG CONCERNS AND HOPES FOR
CIEC IN HIS REPORTING. INGERSOLL

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